

inside:



4 Sailing team makes bid for Alaska



9 Salt Spring Photofest premieres

- Arts 9
- Classifieds 13
- Editorial 6
- Get Noticed..... 15
- Letters 7
- Island Life 10
- Sports & Recreation 20
- What's On 12

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PHOTO BY MARC KITTINGHAM

HARD TO SAY NO: Mirri and Viggo Riva Dostie sell their homemade chocolate chunk cookies at Saturday's market in Centennial Park.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Stopped school bus leaves road

Sunday night car fire and Monday morning crash also reported

BY MARC KITTINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A Gulf Islands School District bus rolled off the road after stopping early Tuesday morning, sending the driver and three passengers into the ditch off Salt Spring's Bulman Road.

No students were harmed in the accident, which took place near Beaver Point Road on the morning run to Ganges and Salt Spring Middle School. The driver received some minor bumps and scratches and was checked to ensure there were no other injuries.

SD64 Superintendent Scott Benwell said speed was not a factor in the incident, and nor were other drivers on the road.

"The bus driver had stopped due to the mechanical difficulties and the bus started to roll," Benwell said.

"The bus will likely be towed to our compound in Ganges and we'll be connecting with the proper authorities to investigate the problem."

District staff were at the schools attended by the students on board on Tuesday to make sure everyone was okay and understood the situation.

Salt Spring Island emergency crews responded to two other vehicle incidents earlier this week. The first incident took place late on Sunday night, when a car stowed in the impound lot on Kings Lane was reported to be on fire. Twelve Salt Spring Fire Rescue crew members were on scene at around 11:30 p.m. to extinguish the fire and prevent it from spreading to other cars.

"It started spreading a little bit to the bush. They just had to soak down the area around it," said Assistant Fire Chief Jamie Holmes.

The area is surrounded by a blackberry thicket,

and dry conditions caused fire crews to take extra precautions.

The cause of the blaze is unknown. Holmes reported the RCMP were investigating the incident.

On Monday morning, a two-vehicle collision caused three people to be sent to Lady Minto Hospital. The collision occurred at around 7 a.m. at the corner of Upper Ganges and Lower Ganges roads.

A witness who was on the scene when the accident occurred said one of the vehicles, a van, did a full barrel rollover.

Fire crews worked to keep the busy intersection clear as they tended to the injured people. All three passengers were taken to hospital. The two vehicles were badly damaged in the crash and were towed away.

Registration is now open for Camp Colossal and a variety of new specialty and preschool camps.

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ENVIRONMENT

Climate Action Plan in review

June declared Climate Awareness Month

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Transition Salt Spring has declared June Climate Awareness Month on the island and has started a review process for the Salt Spring Island Climate Action Plan, to be finished by March 2020.

The organization held their annual general meeting on Saturday, June 1, where they announced the intention to review the plan. The review will be coordinated by the Climate Action Group.

In 2011 the first iteration of the Climate Action Plan was published. It was intended to be a living document. The original plan had one revision in 2012, and has since fallen out of the public eye. Over the course of the next nine months, the Climate Action Group will reach out to community members, businesses and other target groups to inform how Salt Spring will move into a future made uncertain by climate change.

"Things have changed so dramatically since 2011, everybody is beginning to realize that we have to adapt to the changes that are already built in. No matter how much we manage

to avoid the worst of what's to come, we have to do both," said Climate Action Group member and editor of the original plan, Elizabeth White. "We have to mitigate and adapt. One of the imperatives to doing it now is to put adaptation measures into the plan."

Over the next nine months, the group will hold a series of meetings and will set up technical working groups. Some groups are already in existence, focused on specific areas. Transition Salt Spring plans to bring all of the groups under one umbrella to inform an ongoing plan, "drawing in people who are already working in their own particular areas and plugging them in so that we get the information from all of the island groups that are working on this stuff and that we come up with a strategy that makes sense," White explained.

"We're trying to reach out to all islanders who have any kind of expertise, interest or ideas about things that we should be doing to contribute to this. It really does need to be an island-wide effort."

The project is eligible for CRD Community Works funding, and CRD Director Gary Holman has expressed his support for their application. Next steps include setting up a steering committee with various interests

represented, as well as coordinating community meetings. An online engagement site will also be created to give people the chance to voice their ideas even if they cannot attend a meeting.

The 2011 document discussed emissions targets for the island. However, since the document was published, the province no longer publishes data on community emissions. In 2012, the group set up a series of proxy indicators that could indicate the community's progress. The update will look at those indicators to get a sense of what is happening on the island.

"It's been very difficult to track our progress meeting those targets. We don't think we've met them. My gut feeling is that it's not really possible that we could have met them, but we don't know," White said.

Though the plan will not be complete until at least next March, White said that people can start to implement changes at any time.

"A lot of it is lifestyle choice, they're decisions that are made on a daily basis," she said. "Avoiding buying stuff in general is a huge one. Many of us live in houses that are larger than they need to be. If you can go smaller, that's a good idea. It's those sorts of decisions that are going to make a difference."

TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

JUNE 2019 HNP Z+8

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
5	0002	2.8	9.2	9	0502	2.3	7.5
	0411	3.1	10.2		0754	2.5	8.2
	WE 1157	0.1	0.3		SU 1515	0.8	2.6
ME 2022	3.4	11.2	DI 2316	3.4	11.2		
6	0105	2.8	9.2	10	0604	2.0	6.6
	0451	3.0	9.8		0947	2.2	7.2
	TH 1242	0.1	0.3		MO 1612	1.1	3.6
JE 2108	3.4	11.2	LU 2353	3.4	11.2		
7	0222	2.7	8.9	11	0653	1.7	5.6
	0538	2.9	9.5		1159	2.2	7.2
	FR 1331	0.3	1.0		TU 1714	1.5	4.9
VE 2153	3.4	11.2	MA				
8	0345	2.6	8.5	12	0027	3.3	10.8
	0635	2.7	8.9		0735	1.3	4.3
	SA 1421	0.5	1.6		WE 1355	2.4	7.9
SA 2236	3.4	11.2	ME 1820	1.9	6.2		

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WILDLIFE

New Orca calf spotted with J pod

Birth is first since 2016

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Center for Whale Research is announcing potential good news with the birth of a calf to the southern resident killer whales' J pod.

The centre reported Friday that it had received photographs of a calf accompanying J pod, taken by The Whale Centre outfit off Tofino the previous day.

Whale Centre co-owner Jennifer Steven reported in a blog post that she and her partner John Forde had heard orcas were nearby. After going out to check the scene, they determined that the whales were J pod.

"All whale watching companies made the call to stop watching the whales once they knew they were in fact SRKW," Steven wrote.

"We took a few photos of the whales to send to DFO and the Centre for Whale Research. John noticed a brand new calf with J31. We were both really excited to see the calf was very orange and still had fetal folds."

She added their community normally sees J pod once a year, the last time being on June 8, 2018.

Researchers at the Center for Whale Research have confirmed the calf is a new addition, and based on its colouration and body condition was likely



PHOTO BY JOHN FORDE AND JENNIFER STEVEN

New calf seen swimming with J pod members off Tofino on May 30.

born some time in the last one to three weeks. The calf was photographed in association with several J pod females, including J31, J46, and J40. More field observations are needed to confirm the identity of the calf's mother, the researchers said.

The endangered southern resident killer whale population had no documented successful births since 2016, prior to this year. The new calf marks the second birth in 2019, following L124 in January.

Since 1998, only around 25 per cent of SRKW newborns have survived.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Music proposals sought

Salt Spring Island Public Library is accepting proposals for music performances and music-based workshops for families and youth to run over summer break and into the fall as part of its new Music in the Library program.

Programs will run on Saturdays in July, and in the early fall for school groups. Programs should be one to one and a half hours in length and suitable for 10 to 30 kids. Some additional supervision will be provided, but presenters will need to be comfortable working with children and young people.

Proposals will be accepted from both individual musicians and music groups. For more information about what is required, send an email to librarian Nikky McCarvill at nmccarvill@saltspringlibrary.com.

Deadline to apply is Sunday, June 9.

Funding for the program has been generously provided by the Salt Spring Island Foundation of Youth.

Shellfish precautions

Fisheries and Oceans Canada warns that people who consume raw or undercooked bivalve molluscan shellfish, especially oysters, could be susceptible to infection by *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, a naturally-occurring pathogen in B.C. waters.

Symptoms of infection may include watery diarrhea, stomach cramps, nausea, vomiting, fever, and headache. Symptoms usually start within 12 to 24 hours and last up to three days.

Vibrio parahaemolyticus can be present in bivalve shellfish in harvest areas that are open and approved for shellfish harvesting. To reduce the risk of illness, the DFO says bivalve shellfish should only be harvested at the water's edge when the tide is going out and shellfish should be iced, refrigerated or frozen immediately. To kill *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, cook shellfish in the shell thoroughly.

FOR THE RECORD

A comment attributed to Dr. Holly Slakov in May 29 article on the Meadowlane public hearing was actually made by Dr. Paula Ryan. Slakov does not subscribe to the view expressed.

HOUSING

Murakami Gardens turns 10

Successful program celebrated

A community celebration marked the 10-year anniversary of the Murakami Gardens Housing Complex last Wednesday.

The prominent low-income Rainbow Road housing project is operated by Salt Spring Island Community Services. It features 27 units ranging from studios to three-bedroom units, housing families, seniors and singles. The first tenants moved into their apartments in late 2008.

Rose Murakami was in attendance for the occasion. She and her brother Richard donated the land for the housing complex in memory of their parents, Katsuyori and Kimiki (Okano) Murakami.

At the time of permitting for the building, a variance was granted to Community

Services allowing a reduction in the number of parking stalls required. As a result, a car-share program was provided to residents, which greatly reduced the number of cars tenants needed.

The apartment building is also fully integrated into the SSICS food security program with two community fridges and other storage stocked by the organization's Second Harvest Food Recovery program, including fruits and vegetables and non-perishables.

Representatives of the Copper Kettle Community Partnership, which have provided a great deal of food for the low-income residents, were also present for the celebratory event.

SSICS says it has been able to hold the rents stable for the past decade in the complex at a time of significant increases in market rents.



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERINGHAM

Rose Murakami, who along with her brother Richard Murakami donated land for the Murakami Gardens affordable housing complex.

ISLANDS TRUST

Studies to weigh clinic impact

Covenant purposed for Collins subdivision

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee has asked for studies on the potential impacts and mitigations of a proposed Seymour Heights private clinic, but warned the applicant the road ahead could still be long and difficult.

The application is to rezone a 71-acre property from Rural Uplands to a variant permitting commercial accommodations in order to facilitate a European-style cancer clinic with in-patient guest suites. During the May 28 LTC meeting, trustees approved the drafting of bylaw amendments but voiced reservations about the process.

Trustee Laura Patrick said she was aware the project could produce pushback, since neighbours of another property nearby were much opposed to the lifting of a tree-cutting covenant there when that application came up last year.

"This existing covenant was put in for a reason back in 1984, and I need to understand why that hurdle was put in place . . . so that's a big question for me," Patrick said.

The LTC asked for a professional water supply-and-demand servicing plan and a wastewater plan that shows sewage can be treated on site without reaching the land surface or water bodies. The Islands Trust also holds a covenant on the property that restricts development to the existing house and guest cottage. The LTC has asked that a new covenant be drawn up to protect land adjacent to Mount Maxwell Provincial Park.

As regional planning manager Stefan Cermak explained, the uplands designation is meant to allow very low density residential use and other kinds of low-impact development in watershed recharge areas. "It's meant to be a recharge area to pro-

vide multiple purposes, not just to provide human occupation but to provide all the things we want the upland to do," Cermak said.

Representing the applicant, Gail Jaeger of Lightdance Design pointed out the project's scope has been reduced, which was done after Trust staff expressed significant concerns with an earlier proposal to build a new clinic building.

"The owners do not want to have any activity on the rest of the land. That's not the healing model for their centre," Jaeger said.

The proposal now is to limit use to the existing six-bedroom home. Jaeger suggested that additional studies should not be necessary as a new septic field was put in, while the servicing needs would not be greater than those of the existing house.

Covenant proffered as subdivision enticement

In other business last Tuesday, the LTC reconsidered a subdivision proposal for a large property that is split by Collins Road. As an added amenity, Jordan Litke of Polaris Land Surveying suggested the owner could be willing to place a covenant on part of one of the three lots, on the non-waterfront side of the road. The section is adjacent to protected lands in Mount Erskine Provincial Park.

LTC chair Peter Luckham said he would rather see the entire piece on that side of the road be protected and thereby remove the possibility that a three-lot subdivision in name become one with four actual lots. He also noted that smaller pieces of land may not be considered for protection by the conservancy board.

The LTC voted to support the subdivision application in principle, contingent on confirmation from the Islands Trust Conservancy that a covenant is going ahead. Litke said an application is underway and could probably be extended to cover the entire upland portion.



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EMERGENCY preparedness

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<http://firesmoke.ca/forecasts/current/>



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COMPETITIVE SPORTS

Local sailors on race to Alaska



PHOTO BY MARC KITTERNIGHAM

From left: Duncan MacDonald, Callum McGuffin, Cianan McGuffin and Finn McGuffin seen the day before leaving Salt Spring for a race start in Port Townsend, Wash.

Gulf Islands team is youngest competing in endurance event

BY MARC KITTERNIGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A team of young sailors from the Gulf Islands are taking part in a 1,200-kilometre sailing race from Port Townsend, Wash to Ketchikan, Ala.

McGuffin Brothers Racing, made up of twins Callum and Cianan McGuffin along with their older brother Finn and friend Duncan MacDonald, set off early on Monday, June 3 for the fifth edition of the Race to Alaska. The event is "winner take all," meaning the first team that arrives in Ketchikan gets a \$10,000 USD cash prize. The second team gets a set of commemorative steak knives worth about \$25. Besides a series of side bets that incentivize racers, all other finishers will come home with bragging rights.

"It's a bit of an unusual race; you're not allowed to have any motor in your boat at all," said Callum McGuffin. "You can be human powered or sail powered, that's all you're allowed."

The race is one of the longest such races in North America. Racers must be completely without help, and have to find their own route through the Inside Passage. Often, high winds

and bad weather cause boats to drop out of the race. Racers spend much of their time alone, often without sleep.

"It's hard to sleep on a boat when you're racing, with all of the activity up on deck," Cianan McGuffin said. "It's kind of like a resonating chamber down below."

The team is the youngest team in the event, with an aggregate age that is one-quarter of a year younger than their nearest competitor. Finn McGuffin is 23, Callum and Cianan are 19 and MacDonald is 16 years old. While the twins have spent considerable time on the water competing in sailing races across the coast, the other two members of the crew are relatively new to the sport. MacDonald hails from Wells, B.C., approximately 700 km from Vancouver, and started sailing around six months ago.

"It's about as far away from the ocean as you could get," MacDonald said. "I haven't spent too much time on boats except for training with them, but I think it'll be good."

However, the waters around Salt Spring can at times be a perfect proving ground for new sailors.

"The first time we took Duncan out, we decided to take him around Salt Spring," Callum explained. "Just as we got to the boat it started snow-

ing really hard, and then we got out of the harbour. We got two or three miles and the wind started picking up to 32 knots. We were pounding our way the whole way around. After we got two-thirds of the way around the wind died completely."

Finn McGuffin has a bit more experience than MacDonald from doing some cruising.

"This is really ramping up my skill level a lot," he said.

Traveling 1,200 km without a motor is a daunting task. The team will be sailing in a J/24 sailboat, which is 7.3 metres (24 feet) long. They will be using predominantly wind power to make their trek, but also have a human-powered propulsion system for when the wind stops.

"We got a pedal drive system, where we have a little pedestal set up on the side of the cockpit with a flexible driveshaft running to a propeller in the back," Callum said. "When we're pedaling hard, we can do around two knots on good days, 1.5 on bad days."

During the race, the team will need to do all necessary repairs to their vessel, as well as keeping on top of all navigation, food supplies and anything else they may encounter. Despite the challenges, the team is confident in their abilities to finish in good time.

Once they reach Ketchikan, their journey will only be half over. Ketchikan is on a remote island in Alaska and the team will not have a ride home waiting for them. After arriving, they plan on turning back around and making the same trek home.

"We kind of have to beat our time back home, because we could only get three weeks off work. We'll be racing the whole way up there, and racing the whole way back down," Callum said.

When asked what they plan on doing with the prize money if they win, the boys said they will use the money to buy a bigger boat. However, if they come home with steak knives, Cianan stands to benefit the most.

"I used to work as a meat cutter, so they said they would hire me back with extra pay if I got the steak knives. So there's extra incentive."

Those interested in following the race can do so using the live tracker

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Shared services model gets provincial grant

CRD commission receives more Rural Dividend funds

The Capital Regional District and the Salt Spring Community Economic Development Commission have the means to further develop a shared business services model for the island with receipt of a Rural Dividend grant of \$90,750.

The provincial grant will go toward development of a shared services organization that helps local businesses increase their economies of scale through better coordination around common needs. The CEDC will use the funding to develop a five-year business plan, as well as hire staff to undertake the work needed to get the plan in place.

"This grant is a welcome step forward in establishing a sustainable model for delivering shared business ser-

vices," said Gary Holman, Electoral Area Director for Salt Spring. "It will help to grow and broaden our economy and recruit and retain business investment on the island. I would also like to extend my congratulations to the CEDC and former director Wayne McIntyre, who were instrumental in securing Salt Spring's eligibility for the Rural Dividend Program."

In 2018, the CEDC commissioned a feasibility study to explore options for creating a shared business service organization to support local businesses. A co-op model emerged from the study as a way to create a distribution and export hub, share marketing and sales resources and create a pooled labour force.

"Through this Rural Dividend grant, Salt Spring is poised to further develop a sustainable entrepreneurial ecosystem," said CEDC chair Francine Carlin. "This will serve to create year-round employment and build economic capacity within our island's protected rural environment."

GANGES HARBOUR

Boardwalk legal opinion offered

Group meeting with ministry planned

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As local government officials and community volunteers continue to work toward finding a way to complete the Ganges Harbourwalk, a new legal opinion suggests the upland property owners involved in the equation may not have significant rights that would impede the project.

The Salt Spring Local Trust Committee submitted an application for a statutory right-of-way to the provincial government last year, hoping to secure an area suitable for harbourwalk construction adjacent to three waterfront properties currently owned by B&B Ganges Marina. Ganges Marina has also applied to the provincial government to renew its marina lease. Through the referral process, the LTC has additionally indicated the community's desire to see an appropriate area set aside for future harbourwalk construction as a condition of lease renewal.

An assessment of the existing harbourwalk commissioned by the CRD last year found that most of the structure is in good shape. Community supporters would like to get to work refurbishing the parts that need to be replaced and completing the gaps between Rotary Marine Park and Peck's Cove Park.

"Salt Spring is, in my opinion, and many others', the crown jewel of the Gulf Islands. Other places like Nanaimo and even little Crofton have constructed very nice seawalks that add to their communities," said John Woodward, a longtime resident who sat on the Parks and Recreation Commission when the existing portion of the boardwalk was constructed in 1986.

While Ganges Marina operators have said they will defend their ripar-

ian and legal rights should the Islands Trust action impact their lease renewal, a legal opinion recently supplied to Woodward questions the nature of these rights. The opinion was supplied by Woodward's lawyer son Jack Woodward, who has made a name in Indigenous law, including through leading the first successful aboriginal title claim in Canada (Tsilhqot'in Nation v. British Columbia).

According to Woodward's written legal opinion, riparian rights do not equate ownership rights.

"Salt Spring is, in my opinion, and many others', the crown jewel of the Gulf Islands."

JOHN WOODWARD
Harbourwalk supporter

"They are simply the right of the shoreline owner to use the surface of the water. Riparian rights include the right of access to launch small boats, swimming, fishing from the bank into the water [and] that sort of thing," Woodward wrote.

Local zoning bylaws and other legislation meanwhile governs the use of land, including the surface of the water, and can modify riparian rights. Woodward outlines the precedent-setting case in which Arbutus Bay Estates on Mayne Island challenged the Horton Bay CRD dock based on infringement of riparian rights. The case went to the level of the Supreme Court of Canada and was decided against the Arbutus Bay Estates. A request to appeal was denied.

The court found that a registered easement superceded the property

owner's riparian rights.

"In my view the Islands Trust or the CRD could obtain a statutory right-of-way and build the harbourwalk without taking into account the claim of riparian rights, because that claim is so weak and inconsequential it can safely be ignored," Woodward wrote.

Islands Trust planner Jason Youmans, who is assigned to the file, could not say whether the legal opinion would change anything.

"It certainly gave me some food for thought, and the message in it is consistent with the approach the LTC has been taking," he said.

Youmans pointed out that the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development will be the arbiter of whether right-of-way is granted over the objections of the upland property owner. A decision that way could conceivably bring the matter to the courts to decide.

Trustee Peter Grove and Youmans met with Ganges Marina owners earlier this year to discuss their various wishes. A meeting between the community representatives — including the LTC, harbourwalk committee chair Matt Steffich and Salt Spring CRD director Gary Holman — and FLNRORD staff took place on May 2. Next up is a meeting with those two parties and Ganges Marina representatives all in the same room.

Speaking at the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee on May 28, Holman reported that FLNRORD would like more information about the harbourwalk project, including design drawings, so he has undertaken to have those produced using gas tax funds. Holman said he also spoke with administrators in Victoria to see whether there would be any objection about the CRD taking over the statutory right-of-way at some point, and was assured there is not.

WATER RESOURCES

Freshwater Catalogue gains momentum

Grant helps broaden project scope

BY MARC KITTERINGHAM
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Salt Spring Island Freshwater Catalogue project is gaining credibility and momentum with recent grant funding from the Salt Spring Island Foundation as well as inclusion in the World Wildlife Fund's Water Rangers program.

"With credibility, they call it push and pull. Push is when the project is difficult. It's like pushing water uphill and it's hard work, there's no credibility and nobody knows what you're doing," said SSIFWC founder John Millson. "If you can, then you're more on the flat playing field and it becomes a pull situation. Yes, you still have to make a little bit of effort, but things start to come to you. There is some credibility and organizational support. We're in the process of making that transition."

The project, which started in April 2018, is to get a better understanding through use of citizen science of the water available on Salt Spring. Volunteers do regular visits to streams and other water bodies on the island to take measurements of water quantity and, eventually, quality.

The Water Rangers program seeks to fill in data gaps in different parts of the country and build up the amount of data available to scientists. The program provides training to the citizen scientists, which makes data recovery easier and more reliable.

"They do quite a lot of practical stuff in terms of education and getting citizen science education so that people know what they're doing and are competent to do it,"

Millson said. "We'll also learn more about the water quality, which is one of the longer term goals of the Freshwater Catalogue."

With grant funding from the Salt Spring Foundation, Millson plans to purchase new testing devices that can take measurements of both quality and quantity.

"We'll be able to measure things like dissolved oxygen, which is very water quality focused. If you don't have high dissolved oxygen, then you don't have a habitat," he said.

The grant will also cover a dedicated field kit for the group's volunteers. The kit includes notebooks, stop watches, and other equipment to help with data collection. New tools will include water level gauges that are fixed in place to measure depth and turbidity disks, in addition to the digital devices.

With 50 volunteers, Millson has a large portion of the island covered. However, more volunteers are always welcomed. Millson would like to create small groups of people in each area of the island to ensure continuous data gathering, as well as bring on some volunteer coordinators to share some of the workload. With the new equipment, Millson hopes that each area can have its own group of people working with the same instruments.

One set of the volunteer roles Millson wants to fill will be for custodian of the digital tools. That person also will have the option of working as a community coordinator.

The project has expanded to include an interactive online map, showing the most recent data collected for the various streams on the island. The map is available at <http://ssifwc-webgis.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/>.

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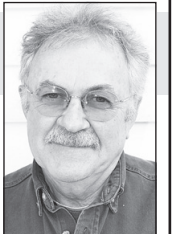
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OPINION



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2018 BCYCN Awards
Gold - Best Feature Series (Elizabeth Nolan) | Silver - Best All-Round | Bronze - Best Editorial



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EDITORIAL

It's a small world

June is a month with many qualities commanding our attention, not least of which is the natural world.

With our hemisphere moving toward maximum daylight hours, gardens are bursting with life and wild flowering plants and trees are coming into their own.

While these small miracles still abound, the greater picture is looking bleaker. A report from the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services determined that nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history — and the rate of species extinctions is accelerating.

The world's oceans are among the hardest hit environments, perhaps because their plant and animal species are easier to ignore for humans who put most of their focus on the land. The IPEBS found that almost 33 per cent of corals

THE ISSUE:

June awareness initiatives

WE SAY:

Personal actions matter

and more than a third of all marine mammals are threatened. Whales face a peril we can no longer ignore, as their deaths surface to haunt us. Close to 60 grey whales have washed up dead along the Pacific coast from Alaska to California in 2019. Two prevailing theories are either warmer oceans or lack of food (amphipods, krill and small fish) are to blame. Southern resident killer whales are also turning up malnourished to the point of starvation. These days, the rare birth of a new calf warrants as much anxiety as joy.

With all these worrying facts casting shadows on June's sunny days, the month has also become a time to raise awareness of the linked issues of species loss, climate change and human action. World Oceans Day arrives this Saturday, June 8. The month of June is Orca Awareness Month in Oregon, Washington state and British Columbia, and it's also been claimed as Climate Awareness Month by Transition Salt Spring this year.

While far-reaching initiatives are needed on all fronts, paying attention to our actions as individuals is a simple start. Things like minimizing waste that could end up in the ocean, growing more of your own food and saying no to farmed salmon are all ways to help lessen climate impacts and maintain ocean health. Not coincidentally, these actions will also help orcas.

Our biosphere is an amazing network of connections. Starting small could help in ways we can't even fathom.

THE BAD NEWS IS THAT YOU HAVE A MUTANT VHF CELL TOWER GROWING OUT OF YOUR HEAD. THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY YOU'RE NEVER OUT OF THE SERVICE AREA.



Parker

More on CRD budget games

BY ROBIN WILLIAMS

It would seem my comments on the 2019 CRD Salt Spring budget need further clarification in light of CRD director Gary Holman's allegation in a May 8 letter that I am somehow "misinformed."

While I was unable to attend the formal CRD budget presentation, I was invited to a private meeting regarding the referendum funding with senior CRD administrative staff on Feb. 28. I based my assessment on that meeting and the fact you cannot finance a five per cent increase in costs with a 1.8 per cent increase in revenue.

To understand how the Salt Spring transportation service requisition was misappropriated you first need to understand how CRD restricted funds should be reported. To see this we can look at the 2019 allocation for CRD Regional Parks. This is divided into two service accounts: 1.280A for land acquisition, which is a restricted fund, and 1.280, which is the general administration or unrestricted account. This simple method ensures restricted funds cannot be used for other purposes.

For 2014 to 2018 the Salt Spring Island Transportation Commission also had two requisitions: their general requisition under bylaw 3440

VIEWPOINT

and the special or restricted requisition created by the referendum. However, when recording these two requisitions, they were both combined into a single account (1.238B), the account set up for the administrative requisition. From 2014 to 2018 this was not really an issue as the \$250,000 special requisition flowed through the account to a capital reserve where the bulk of the funds still sit. It did, however, have the effect of "laundering" restricted and unrestricted funds together.

In 2019 when the requisition was supposed to end, the CRD was able to disguise that they kept it going but transferred the funds to administrative purposes. The 2019 budget claims the transportation requisition was lowered by 57.88 per cent. In reality the special requisition was lowered by 100 per cent and the administrative requisition was actually increased by \$20,870.00. The balance of the \$229,130 was simply spread around a series of accounts in various amounts. The CRD was able to use the blended account to disguise the administrative increase and the commission's correct financial position.

With the requisition ending it should not have been

included in the percentage tax calculation. On one hand they claim the requisition has ended but on the other they claim taxes are only increasing by 1.8 per cent. The only way this balances with a five per cent increase in costs is by maintaining the requisition. Now instead of transferring it through to the reserve account it is just getting spent.

Finally, as for the innuendo that as volunteer chair I was somehow responsible for the project delay and additional costs, it is important to understand two things. Salt Spring CRD commissions do not have managerial authority; the project manager is a CRD employee and not the SSITC chair. Second, the project is fully funded and ready to tender but is on hold due to a First Nations review.

I do not consider it responsible for an elected official to imply this delay could have been avoided during the previous term. Nor is the new CRD Director unaware of the significance of the First Nations review as I personally briefed him during a transition meeting. I also left the new director with an open invitation to consult with me on any transportation issue, including the 2019 budget, an opportunity he has to date declined.

The writer is former SSITC chair.

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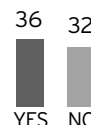
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Has the Toronto Raptors' historic advance made you a basketball fan? Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Would you vote for an independent federal candidate?



Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Tuesday at noon or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 4:30 p.m.

OPINION

**QUOTE
OF THE
WEEK:**

"Things have changed so dramatically since 2011, everybody is beginning to realize that we have to adapt to the changes."

ELIZABETH WHITE, CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

SALT SPRING SAYS

WE ASKED: *What is the most effective way that people can combat climate change?*

SAL WILTSHIRE



Support organic local farmers and put our attention into that.

ESTHER IMMEL



The best thing is for people to stop thinking that they can't do anything. Too many people think they can't change the world.

JENNY MCCLEAN



Walk and take the bus.

BRYAN DUBIEN



The most effective thing is that people understand their own power in the conversation, and getting their voice heard. That and taking action in their daily lives.

VANESSA SABOURIN



Being really mindful of the food waste you produce at home could be a big game changer.

LETTERS to the editor

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. Letters may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are also asked to furnish a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign their letters with their full name. Thank you letters will not normally be considered for publication. Send your letters to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

STVRs not benign

Regarding the May 22 guest column by the Salt Spring Accommodations group, whilst it is obvious that the Salt Spring economy relies heavily on tourism, there is a great danger of unfettered tourism. Just ask the residents of Barcelona and Venice for their opinion.

Already Ganges is a no-go area over the weekend for many island residents, and we know of several people who have left Salt Spring in search of a more peaceful life because of this.

Having had the experience of living next to an illegal short term vacation rental for five years, we can attest to the fact that it is absolute hell. We were unable to sit outside in summer due to the incessant noise, and having different renters every week disrupted our local neighbourhood and sense of community.

This was a property with no owners on site, and that is the

crux of the matter. In our view, the provision of the breakfast itself is irrelevant. It is the management and oversight of the property on a daily basis that counts. Owners need to live on site at any tourist accommodation.

To state that there is no empirical evidence of extra water use in STVRs is simply not true. The trustees of our local water board were forced to shut off the supply to this property, after usage was in excess of the absolute bi-monthly maximum (which is already twice the amount that most residents use) in the course of four weeks.

We need to support our Islands Trust bylaw manager who is doing a difficult job in trying to preserve and protect our island.

**NICK AND VICKY
HODSON,**
SALT SPRING

Join together

The following letter was sent to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the other federal party leaders, and filed

with the Driftwood for publication.

I am a former teacher, gardener, writer and great grandmother. I am very concerned about the world we are leaving for our children and beyond.

As you and all federal MPs are debating federal climate emergency motions this week these are my concerns.

Many believe that our subsidies to the fossil fuel industries that we pay in our taxes must be used to train thousands for jobs in alternative clean energies, to massive building renovations, transportation systems that get away from gas-guzzling vehicles, and to ensuring clean water for all instead of pouring clean water into mining, oil and fracking operations.

It is essential that we respect the rights of all to clean air, water and soil/food uncontaminated by pesticides, herbicides and drugs unwisely used to supposedly increase production but do untold harm to people and the environment.

With government encouragement Canadians have the creativity and will to provide healthy food and a cleaner environment; especially with our First Nations neighbours and their knowledge of how to live with the bounty of the earth; not destroy it for the benefit of the few.

We don't have time to continue to play politics, arguing like privileged adults in Parliament whose main concern is the next election. We must be sitting down together and working with all Canadians to immediately change course to do all in our power to build a decent life for all in the next decade.

If we refuse to work together, we will surely die together with loved ones in our arms, some of whom have already endured floods, fires, extremes of storm, heat and fear.

Let us join together with all on this planet, our only home.

EILEEN WTEWAALL,
BRINKWORTHY ROAD

MORE LETTERS continued on 8

'Pets' setting on camera has great potential

You will doubtless have been as thrilled as I was recently by the first-ever photo of a black hole. Never mind that it looks for all the world like a Tim Hortons doughnut, astronomers around the world are as excited as kids at Christmas.

Personally, I found it reassuring to discover that there are holes in space that are bigger than the ones in Salt Spring roads and that there are still mysteries in the universe more bizarre than Brexit. Don't ask me to explain it (Brexit, not the black hole. There are some things that are wholly inexplicable – Einstein predicted the existence of black holes, Brexit would have baffled even him). Having said that, I also understand as much about sexing sea urchins as I do about black holes, which is to say nothing, but according to the CBC it is substantially larger than our solar system and its mass is 65 billion times that of our sun.

Which begs the question: How come they couldn't get a decent photo of it. I mean, come on! This thing is 40 billion kilometres across and three million times the size of Earth, which is by any standard very, very big and all they could get was a fuzzy blob? And they can't make the excuse that someone had their finger on the lens or that it is 40 billion trillion miles away because they used eight cameras the size of apartment blocks situated around the world to get a snapshot of it.

Not that you'd want to get too close. This thing is denser than Donald Trump and, like Trump, sucks in all the light from its surroundings.

But I speak as someone who has had a lifetime of taking rubbish pictures and can sympathize with the boffins and their fuzzy photo.

My wife, bless her, suggested recent-



Paul McElroy
+ ANOTHER
THING

ly that I should write about something "nice" for a change. Sunrise or baby lambs, for instance. She's very big on baby lambs. It is true that we see some spectacularly rubicund sunrises from our little eyrie on Mount Belcher, so spectacular in fact that I recently bought a better camera of my own with which to record them. The camera, which I obtained second-hand from Doug of the Salt Spring Photography Club (which I have also recently joined in the vain hope of eventually taking a half-way decent photo) is so smart it could probably sort out the island's housing crisis.

It's certainly a damned sight smarter than me and by the time I'd figured out how to capture the sunrise, it was midday and raining.

I also tried to photograph the recent lunar eclipse and as you can imagine that didn't go well either, since at the time I was battling a wobbly tripod and either double-pneumonia or TB (a "nasty cough" as my GP — who doesn't put as much faith in Dr. Google as I do — characterized it). But as luck would have it, I have four years to prepare for the next eclipse provided I'm not too feeble to press the camera button by then.

In the meantime, I'm waiting for the sun to come out because any photographer who isn't Henri Cartier-Bresson knows that fog and drizzle are not particular-

ly photogenic. I'm sure my new camera has a "Miserable Day" setting, but I'm only up to page 613 in the handbook and have so far only taken photos of my cats, who have started hiding behind furniture when I approach them, and trees that at least stand still long enough to be photographed.

Remarkably, the camera DOES have a "Pets" mode, which I haven't used so far but presumably ejects a stream of catnip and kibble from under the lens.

But it is also unfortunately true that I have been blessed with the artistic withdrawal of a front-end loader and it is becoming increasingly and depressingly obvious that despite owning a camera with an IQ higher than my own, I am unlikely to snap anything worthy of hanging on the wall.

So if you spot somebody out and about in Ganges with an expensive camera and his thumb over the lens, don't laugh. Just smile. Please.

• Anyone who spotted me at the recent production of Arsenic and Old Lace in Mahon Hall may have thought I was wincing at the proceedings on the stage. Not a bit of it.

The uncomfortable truth is that I was suffering a bout of gout, proof if ever it was needed that it is not only pudgy sybarites who suffer its indignities, but the young and wholesome too.

A Regency gent would have retired to his sedan chair and lain back moaning, while I struggled manfully to my seat despite feeling as if I was wearing barbed wire socks.

If the show's producers were inclined to run the play again I might find it funny this time, but it's hard to laugh through gritted teeth.

CRD's spring activities enumerated

Emergency Planning

Salt Spring owes a debt of gratitude to Elizabeth Zook, recently retired as Salt Spring's Emergency Program Coordinator. Elizabeth managed the program for eight years, culminating in her capable organization of reception centres during our recent wind and snow storms. Our new Emergency Coordinator is Brian Bogdanovich, a former captain with the Vancouver Fire Department. Derek Capitaine (Salt Spring Search and Rescue), and Candice Seagull (with a background in emergency management), have been appointed deputy coordinators, which will strengthen leadership capacity in CRD's emergency program.

Breakdowns in communications systems are always problematic during major events, which is why our first responders have requested improved CREST infrastructure. Our Salt Spring amateur radio group can also play a stronger role in emergencies and our local CRD program will help to fund their radio operator training this fall.

CREST Emergency Telecommunications

As requested by the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee, CREST will provide more detailed analyses of site selection for its proposed new tower, including evaluation of alternative sites. I've also asked Dr. Richard Stanwick, the Capital Region's Chief Medical Health Officer, for his opinion on the health risks of wireless radio technologies. I acknowledge the concerns expressed by opponents of the CREST project and possible co-located cell services. However, it is my understanding that health authorities in B.C. and Canada believe that the safety benefits of wireless infrastructure far outweigh any health risks.



Gary Holman
CRD DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Community Safety

Recent vandalism in Ganges resulted in a series of meetings within the community by concerned citizens and organizations. In response to these concerns, I supported CRD budget increases for bylaw enforcement and grants in aid to help support security measures. I am also considering the establishment of a CRD "Community Safety Service" that could collaborate with the RCMP and social service agencies to improve security and community outreach. I will initiate a fact finding and consultation process to help define such a service, and seek voter approval this fall. With voter approval, a service could be initiated in January, 2020.

Climate Change

The CRD Board and Islands Trust Council have both declared climate emergencies. Our community has been taking action on climate change for years, but our local government must play a stronger role. The CRD Board will be implementing measures to capture more methane from the Hartland landfill, hire an energy manager, and gather data to measure our progress on climate goals.

On Salt Spring, I am supporting gas tax funding to update the Climate Action Plan (by Transition Salt Spring) and Area Farm Plan (by the SSI Agriculture Alliance) to ensure we are implementing actions that are most effective. I am also supporting gas tax funding to help complete The

Root food processing centre and reduce imported food, Salt Spring's single largest source of GHG emissions. The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure agreed to my request to chip rather than burn large piles of wood waste they gathered from the December wind storm. They distributed these chips to local farmers and to the Farmland Trust's Burgoyne Valley Community Garden. I'm also considering gas tax funding to install EV chargers with private and public sector partners to promote EV ownership on the island, which has the highest per capita in Canada.

Ganges Harbour Walk

Along with Trustee Peter Grove and Matt Steffich, chair of the CRD Harbour Walk Committee, I met with Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and rural Development to discuss the Trust's proposed right of way for the Ganges Harbour boardwalk. FLNRORD has agreed to host another meeting with island officials and the Ganges Marina to discuss how to move the boardwalk and marina lease renewal forward.

Inter-Agency Cooperation

All of the above CRD initiatives involve collaboration with other agencies, and there are many other examples. CRD continues to work on water management issues with the Islands Trust, North Salt Spring Waterworks District and provincial agencies. PARC is collaborating with the Harbour Authority to better manage Centennial Park impacts on HASSI's adjacent parking lot. I will be participating on the advisory committee being established by the Salt Spring Fire Protection District to help plan for the new fire hall. Inter-agency cooperation is essential to make our rural system of governance work and I'm honoured to play a role in this work.

as a high priority. This request was formally presented during the Local Trust Committee meeting of May 28.

Both villages require an updated framework and strategy for development and revitalization.

Economic capacity building within a protected rural environment requires a coherent direction to guide economic development and the development process.

CEDC is actively working as advocates, facilitators and project leaders in efforts to increase the economic health of our community. We are supporting and encouraging green businesses, managing our tourism destination, supporting artisans and small-scale producers to strengthen and sustain year-round economy.

CEDC calls upon the trustees to re-initiate the Villages Area Plan work program commenced back in 2013 and to produce a comprehensive plan that presents an integrated sustainable vision and framework for strategic directions that will guide a thriving future for the Fulford and Ganges villages.

A climate emergency has been declared and a proactive process to develop comprehensive village plans will provide the entire community with better guidance on how to achieve it.

FRANCINE CARLIN,
CHAIR, SSICEDC

Pathway budget clarified

Jenny McClean is correct when she states in her Driftwood Viewpoint, that the CRD Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) maintains pathways built by the CRD's Salt Spring Transportation Commission. This arrangement works well. PARC has the staff and equipment to do the maintenance, and the transportation commission provides a budget allocation to PARC to pay for the service. But the annual cost of this maintenance is much lower – for example, about \$12,000 in 2017 (15 cents per household per month) — not the \$40,000 claimed by Ms. McClean.

Ms. McClean is also correct that pathway maintenance is the local contribution to the partnership with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, who supports and even helps fund pathway construction in their rights of way. This was not the result of any deception. It was the plan — it is why the transportation commission was created. Otherwise pathways would not be built at all.

There have been delays in pathway construction, but the funding that has been set aside remains in reserve, and hopefully construction of both the Booth Canal to Central pathway and the last legs of the North Ganges Transportation Plan can begin this year.

GARY HOLMAN,
CRD DIRECTOR

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MORE LETTERS

continued from 7

Dead zones and red herrings

In response to Greg Middleton's letter of last week: CREST plans to use VHF (very high frequency) and not "very low frequency" radio waves in their emergency system upgrade on Salt Spring. All radio towers emit radio-frequency radiation.

Even with new CREST towers in place, there may still be "dead zones" in high-density buildings like our hospital due to the nature of how VHF travels. CREST has switched to a 700-MHZ spectrum in urban areas in the Capital Regional District area, but on Salt Spring they will continue to use VHF. Victoria and Esquimalt councillors have called the CREST VHF system "dangerous" and an "absolute disgrace" because its poor reception has put police officers at risk.

Just as our bodies respond differently to natural and processed sugar (fruit vs. high

fructose corn syrup), natural and human-made radiation (the sun vs. radio towers) have different physiological impacts. Some scientists believe polarization may serve as a trigger that significantly increases the probability for the initiation of biological and health effects.

On Wednesday, June 26 at 7 p.m. at GISS, eminent scientist Dr. Martin Pall will dispel some of the myths and misconceptions about electromagnetic radiation and 5G (fifth generation cellular network technology). Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

SUZIE SMITH,
SALT SPRING

Village plans needed

The Salt Spring Island Community Economic Development Commission, at its May 13 meeting, passed a motion to strongly request that the Salt Spring Island local trustees designate comprehensive strategic planning for Fulford village and Ganges village

ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

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 Open for Breakfast every day at 8am
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ART FESTIVAL

Salt Spring Photofest has premiere

Double receptions set for June 14

BY PAUL MCELROY
 DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Almost everyone has a camera these days, usually on their phone and at the end of a selfie stick. And why not? Salt Spring is a perfect place to take photographs.

From June 13 to June 26 it will also become the perfect place to see photographs, the work of the finest photographers on the island who have come together to demonstrate just how exquisite the photographer's art can be.

Forget your snaps of the kids on the beach or the cat being cute, and be inspired by Salt Spring's first Photofest, a collaboration of the island's two main photographic organizations, Salt Spring Photography Club and the Photosynthesis group, along with many other photographers on island.

The photo club has more than 100 members and is open to all levels from complete novice to internationally recognized professionals, while Photosynthesis is a smaller group of 20 well established photographers who show their work once a year.

But now the two groups have come together for a two-week photography extravaganza. They have invited all other island photographers to help them turn the island into one massive photo gallery and fill the empty wall spaces of more than 34 island cafés and exhibition spaces. The two largest collections will be in Ganges – at ArtSpring where Photosynthesis takes over much of the wall space and at Gallery 8 where some of the Salt Spring Photo Club's 100 members will showcase their own superb photos.

Photofest has been neatly timed to coincide with the annual Tour des Îles festival, anticipating that the event will attract locals as well as visitors coming in from the other islands and beyond. There will also be a detailed brochure and map which marks all participating venues available from ArtSpring, Gallery 8 and the tourist info centre.

The festival officially begins on Thursday, June 13 with staggered opening receptions the following evening. Visitors are invited to start at ArtSpring (4:30 to 7 p.m.) and end up at Gallery 8 (5 to 8 p.m.) on June 14.

"We see this as an annual event, not a one-off," said Salt Spring Pho-



Photograph of waves by Pierre Mineau, a sample of the high quality photography that will be shown all across Salt Spring from June 13 to 26.

tography Club and Photofest chair Pierre Mineau. "Eventually we'd love to extend it to all the southern Gulf Islands so people taking the Tour des Îles could see great photography on all the islands."

Photosynthesis chair Alane Lalonde added, "We're trying to get everyone involved in this. And if it encourages people or inspires them to get out there with their phones or whatever they have, that would be great."

Makana Youth Choir Concert
Lovely Day
 Caroni Young, director
 Shirley Bunyan, piano
 Deb Smith, bass
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LIVE THEATRE

GISS Acting presents Argonautika play

Ancient Greek voyage tale with timely themes shows at Fulford Hall

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Gulf Islands Secondary School's senior acting class is presenting a twist on a classic story for their end-of-year production, with a presentation of Mary Zimmerman's Argonautika coming to Fulford Hall this Thursday and Friday, June 6 and 7.

The foundational sea voyage story sees Jason and his crew sail away on the Argo on a quest to bring back the golden fleece. Along the way they encounter strange island communities, are guided by the gods and face fantastic creatures including sea monsters, harpies and a never-sleeping dragon.

As Variety magazine explained when the play first premiered in 2006, two major themes developed throughout Argonautika are the complexities of love — central to the human experience but potentially destructive — and the pitfalls of hubris. Zimmerman's version of the classic tale also provides a more female-centered perspective of the hero's journey, as many reviewers have remarked, with goddesses Athena and Hera shaping the story through their narration and a sensitive portrayal of Medea, the young sorceress with whom Jason becomes entangled.

All of this provides a wealth of exciting stage material and characters rich for exploration by an ensemble. The class chose Argonautika over another option, which was The Hobbit.

"It had more space to create something out of than to do a story that so many people know," said acting student Josephine Gaffney. "The lineage of the story of Jason and the Argonauts is one that's repeated so many times in basically every adventure story ever written, but ... it's really easy to play with it and make different creations and different choices out of it."

Gaffney is in charge of making the puppets and masks that will represent many of the fantastic creatures. She's used her creative license to produce pieces that may not be expected, such as robotic looks rather than feathers.

Federica Baggio, who plays Medea, said the group also wanted

to move away from the typical classic Greek ideation with elegant togas and the like.

"We wanted something a little more realistic, maybe," Baggio said.

"It's a little ugly," Gaffney agreed. "We wanted to be ugly and show these characters for what they were: ugly characters and ugly situations, and letting that shine through. This play focuses on staying away from the obvious."

In that same vein, the actors have been looking at ways of portraying nuanced, human characters rather than stock archetypes. Desmond Finn, who plays Jason, said although it necessarily involves a certain amount of charisma and confidence, he wanted to explore going beyond the stock hero.

"That's kind of difficult because what's in the role, and in the lines. It's really trying to find a way to make that more interesting and play it up in some way," Finn said. He added that Jason is also very interested in the opinion of his companions, which brings further complexity to the character.

Baggio has a fascinating role in Medea, who has a tragic and cruel future ahead, but is young and fragile when the Argonauts first come across her.

"Then she meets Jason and everything changes in her life," Baggio said. "That changes her experience and her attitude as well. She grows and develops throughout the play into how she is known in later plays and mythology."

Because there are some darker elements to the story, the ensemble has made sure to include lots of lighter moments and have fun with their characters, as well.

"It's that contrast that I think will make it interesting to see," Finn said.

Argonautika further strays away from the usual, for GISS at least, in being performed at Fulford Hall.

"For an unconventional play, we went for an unconventional space," Gaffney explained. "The same way we're learning how to work this play, we're learning how to work that hall into what we want it to be."

Tickets are available from the cast or by emailing acting teacher Jason Donaldson at jdonaldson@sd64.org.

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FORMS IN NATURE
THE GROUP OF SIX

JULIAN BRUCE REAL ESTATE salt spring arts council

Mahon Hall - June 7-26
Opening - June 7, 6-8pm
Artist Talk - June 23, 2pm

Judy McPhee - Simon Henson - Larry Citra
 Kaysia Hartwell - Ross McLeod - Bruce McPhee



ISLAND LIFE

- GISS column
- Silk Road cycling
- Remember When

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, **Streets of Salt Spring Island**

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com



THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

by Michael O'Connor

www.sunstarastronomy.com | sunstarastronomy@gmail.com

TIP OF THE WEEK: READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

As spring enters its final days in the lead-up to summer, the plot is getting deeper. Mercury in Cancer as of June 4 joins forces with Mars. This means that the mental focus that Mercury implies is supporting the driving force of Mars. When in the watery sign of the Moon, Mars is complex. Positively, it manifests as some kind of renovation and particularly the deconstruction or demolition stage. Mars is assertive, even aggressive, especially when in Cancer, it so happens. But, it can be and ideally would be put to use for the sake of purposeful and meaningful activity. As ever, it is when there is no plan or intention, but rather the energy is left to find a target, like a rogue missile, that problems arise. So, harness the energy with intention and point it at projects that require extra measures of renewal and digging deep to clear the way for the new.

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

You are in a social mood. Communications are running high in all directions. Some of these are philosophical while others social, cultural and ethical. Family and home focus also continues strong. There you are digging deep and making measurable changes. All the while, you feel inspired to go on mini adventures. Summertime flurry!

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

You are a born multi-tasker. The cliché notions of 'slow but sure' and 'one at a time' apply to you much less than some might assume. You are also ever interested in expressing your skills and talents and when these bring in returns, financial or otherwise, you get really excited. Circumstances are pushing you express your creative, aesthetic passions.

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)

Last week's New Moon in your sign is coming up fast to its first major corner. This is when the momentum is high and important decisions are made. Amidst an array of social, cultural and creative activities, you are also focused on creating a deeper sense of security. This includes paying closer attention to the details. These may be linked to finances, but also to more immediate realities, like changing your diet to adapt to your current reality.

Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)

This cycle prior to your own is one during which you are wise to time out. However, circumstances are pushing you to assert yourself against the current. This could be the source of some irritation for you and others. Taking risks and giving more to situations that you may usually are featured. Positively, you are in an inventive mood.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)

The focus now is upon friendships, your social network and you sense of individuality. Deciphering who you feel you are and are not and what you want and don't is the deep end. This process of self-definition includes the gathering of specific tools and methods and could possibly find you in new territory altogether, as with a new job or role.

Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)

You public and professional persona and reputation, in general, is undergoing a change. Perhaps you are presenting yourself to others in new and exciting ways. Your confidences are rising steadily and you are determined to act on this and push through prior limitations and wise to as well. Building a new foundation of power with the longer-term insight is featured.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)

This is a social and cultural time of year and you are all for it. Your biggest challenge includes which of the variety of interesting options will you choose? This could be a bit of a dilemma actually. Mini dips here and there could work well, all in a graceful flow. Yet, be careful not to spread yourself too thin as the result will not likely prove satisfying.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

You have arrived at one of those forks once again. Going one way will be a repeat of previous experiences while going the other will prove transformational. Neither is necessarily better than the other, so it depends on what you feel you want and need. There are indications that you want to mingle and be spontaneous with what you do, and when, and with whom.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

A social cycle is underway for us all and it is stimulating your relationship life. You are in a rather adventurous and expansive mood these days due to Jupiter in your sign. Together, these influences are inspiring you to socialize. The twist here is that you yearn for original conversation; communications that transcend the usual.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

Paying closer attention to the finer details of your overall lifestyle rhythm is likely now. You may feel more selective than usual both in terms of what you do and who whom. This could be the source of some interpersonal challenges, however. Positively, you are in a creative and playful mood. This could altogether amount to a yearning for stimulating conversation.

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)

Taking new, creative initiatives is on your mind of late. These are probably requiring extra effort both in terms of time and intensity. This is a call to tackle things slowly yet deliberately. All the while, expanding your social front has felt important. This could include travel. Learning, in general, is featured and the more fun and playful the better.

Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)

Hovering close to home continues. You are keen to attend to creative interests and projects and social activities hold less appeal. If you do have to venture out, you want to return quickly. Yet, this does not mean you will be idle - just the opposite. Your focus is sharp and you feel determined to achieve key goals, some of them longstanding.

WATER SUPPLY

Understanding island hydrology



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Families enjoy the public beach at St. Mary Lake on Saturday. The lake doubles as a recreation area and the island's main drinking water reservoir.

Issues and terms explained

BY MAGGIE SQUIRES
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Hydrology, the study of the distribution, abundance and circulation of water, is founded on common understanding of a suite of hydrologic terms. Two key terms, "groundwater" and "runoff," were the subject of a series of three Driftwood pieces in January 2019: Marc Kitteringham's article "Island groundwater picture shared in study" plus letters to the editor by Shannon Cowan and Jim Dumont.

In this article, runoff and groundwater are defined and then used, along with a few other key terms, to describe the basic hydrological system of Salt Spring Island and to explain why water matters so much to Salt Springers.

RUNOFF DEFINED

Runoff is precipitation minus rainwater that evaporates to the atmosphere and percolates down to groundwater aquifers. Measured as flow in streams or rivers, rainfall becomes stream-

flow-runoff in several different ways, as follows:

- By falling directly onto water surfaces (called direct precipitation);
- By running off of hard surfaces and water-saturated soil, and by falling faster that rainwater can percolate into soils (called overland flow);
- By moving downslope through shallow forest soils (called throughflow); and;
- By moving into and then out of groundwater aquifers (called groundwater discharge).

GROUNDWATER DEFINED

Groundwater is water stored in aquifers. In relatively deep bedrock aquifers, water is stored in cracks and joints. In relatively shallow sand and gravel aquifers, water fills up pore spaces. On Salt Spring, bedrock aquifers are prevalent. Pumping ground water for human use is "safe" as long as replenishment (called recharge) equals discharge. In aquifers that have accumulated water for a very long time (for hundreds to thousands of years, for instance), pumping may exceed replenishment.

ASSESSING HYDROLOGIC SYSTEMS

Assessment of the distribution, abundance, and circulation of water is based on field measurements. Runoff volume is measured as annual stream flow. How much groundwater is stored in aquifers is based on the position of the water table for aquifers at equilibrium with atmospheric pressure, and on potential position of the water table — if water is pressurized (such as in artesian flow). Calculation (rather than measurement) of how much water evaporates, the volume of water held in soils (based on field methods too complex to describe here), and how much rain falls (measured directly) completes the hydrologic system.

DRIFTWOOD PUBLICATIONS

In the first of three pieces, Marc Kitteringham (Jan. 16) covered a presentation to the public on the recent study of four of Salt Spring's main aquifers. The story includes comparison of total rainfall on Salt Spring (180 million cubic meters per year) with the amount of water used each year by humans (just over a million cubic meters, or less than one per cent of total rainfall). "Leftover" rainwater fills and flushes lakes, replenishes groundwater aquifers, evaporates and transpires, and flows to the ocean. At the presentation, the public voiced concern that a longer seasonal drought corresponds with decreasing well water levels and their longer recovery times.

Shannon Cowan's letter (Jan. 23) provided more detail on the fate of annual rainfall, as follows: 34-36 per cent evaporates, 54 per cent flows to the sea, 10-12 per cent recharges groundwater, and 0.3-0.6 per cent is used by humans. If annual groundwater recharge is equivalent to groundwater discharge (each 10 per cent of total annual rainfall), then the amount of

groundwater discharged to streams, lakes, and springs plus the amount of water that is evaporated and transpired must be much larger than groundwater use by humans (human use less than one per cent of annual rainfall).

Further, 0.6 per cent use of total annual rainfall means humans co-opt up to 1.1 million cubic meters of rainwater each year. For comparison, combined water use from St. Mary and Maxwell Lake is also about 1.1 million cubic meters (data from NSSWD hydrology reports). Based on these numbers, human use of groundwater seems to be minor compared with use of lake water. But groundwater meets the water needs of approximately half of the households on Salt Spring, suggesting its use must be somewhat significant.

Jim Dumont suggested in a Jan. 30 letter to the editor that the percentage of rainfall lost to runoff must be much smaller than 54 per cent (possibly this high in Ganges but much lower everywhere else). Indeed, overland runoff from paved areas of the Ganges business centre is likely to be much greater than overland runoff from rural areas (where rainfall infiltrates soils then moves downslope as throughflow). Speaking of total runoff (or streamflow), 54 per cent of rainfall seems reasonable.

WHY DOES WATER MATTER SO MUCH TO ISLANDERS?

Because of Salt Spring's seasonal drought, the cost of using treated lake water increases sharply (as a conservation measure), and some well-users experience groundwater shortages and/or saltwater intrusion.

The author holds a Ph.D. in limnology — the study of inland waters as ecological systems.

KIDS' ACTIVITIES

World Oceans Day set to excite youngsters

Activities at Salt Spring Public Library

A small group of Salt Spring ocean lovers are hosting an afternoon of fun ocean-themed activities for kids at the library on World Oceans Day, which is on Saturday, June 8.

Running from 1 to 4 p.m., the free event is aimed at children six to 12 years old and will offer book readings, videos,

slide shows, games, crafts and even dancing.

Leading the afternoon are author/underwater photographer Ann Donahue, geographer/underwater photographer Catherine Griffiths, author/playwright/professor Natalie Meisner, and artist/illustrator/author Sarah Grindler.

Space is limited in the library's program room, so pre-registration at the library is advised.

GISS

High school year ends on a high note

Performances and exhibits on now



Reign Ackerley
THIS MONTH @ **GISS**

As the school-year inches towards a close, the summation shows and seasonal cramming commence.

Additionally, the struggle for increased attendance has not disappeared. The implementation of the student portal has increased accountability. However, the administration says that a part of the solution is within the students, they need to show up and have self-accountability. There has been a recent crackdown on hallway wandering and absenteeism in the last month. But with less than two weeks there likely aren't going to be many direct results and we'll need to wait until September to see a lasting impact.

In student life, the show season began last week on Wednesday with the GISS dancers taking to the ArtSpring stage. Their bi-annual show displayed many new pieces from both the junior and senior class. They incorporated different styles, switching between hip-hop and interpretive effortlessly. The next end of semester show to take the stage is Argonautika.

The senior acting class is performing the classic Greek tale of Jason and the Argonauts at Fulford Hall on June 6 and 7. Meanwhile, the media arts class has a walk-around art tour in town. Executed by beloved art teacher Emily Gooden, the photography classes have set up their prints in the windows of local businesses in Ganges. In 15 locations, from Apple Photo to Whiskers, is the work of over 40 beginner to advanced photographers. Their show, called 24/7, is on until June 7.

Finally, the show season comes to a close with the music show, The Weight. It is on for two nights, June 12 and 13, at ArtSpring. Each night will be different. The first will display the works of the senior composition and guitar class as well as the choir. The second night will have more senior comp and choir works, with the addition of jazz compositions and music from GISPA. And so the school year and show season will come to an end.

Overall the school year is ending on a high note. The summation shows bring the beginning of summer. And there is the likelihood of better attendance come September.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH NOLAN

Site-specific photo art at TJ Beans, created by media arts students to fit the window frame and location.

Bach on the Rock

Chamber Orchestra and Choir

Artistic Director
Michael Jarvis

Chamber Music for a Summer's Evening

Music by: Handel, Telemann, Durante, Bach, Vivaldi

Saturday, June 15, 2019,
7:30 pm, ArtSpring

Adults \$22, students \$5

bachontherock.com

HEALTH CARE

Community health centre idea explored

Service gaps to be identified in review

BY SALT SPRING COMMUNITY HEALTH SOCIETY

Dr. Marcus Greatheart, in his presentation at the Community Health Society's Town Hall meeting on May 27, shared his perceptions of how a community health centre could complement Salt Spring's existing health services.

Greatheart is a family physician on the staff of Three Bridges Community Health Centre in Vancouver. His patients include those with complex problems of aging, mental health, drug and alcohol dependency, and gender and sexual identity issues. With both a master's degree in social work and a medical degree he is

exceptionally well qualified to work with such complex patients.

Greatheart's training included time on Haida Gwaii, where he learned much about issues within the First Nations community. He also did a family practice rotation at the former Kings Lane Clinic.

Three Bridges CHC includes a team approach with physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, social workers and consultants, all available to give comprehensive services. Visits are typically scheduled for 30 minutes. A CHC is funded to have a range of health service practitioners. It allows for walk-in patients by building that time availability into the daily work schedule, thereby taking considerable pressure off the emergency room.

Having both fee-for-service and CHC

practitioners available on Salt Spring would greatly enhance the range of services for the island's diverse community. By having a CHC, our family doctors would also have additional referral resources for their patients.

The May 27 town hall was sponsored by the Salt Spring Community Health Society as part of our effort to fully involve the community in planning for health services to fill community-identified gaps. The results of a recent interview project concerning gaps in health care on Salt Spring were discussed. With the help of a CRD Grant in Aid, SSCHS has contracted with Wave Consulting to conduct a full community health needs survey. The results of this survey will be presented at a community town hall in September.

ADVENTURES

Cyclist tells Silk Road tale

Slideshow presentation held June 13

On Thursday, June 13 at Salt Spring United Church, Brenda Trenholme will share the journey of a lifetime, when she followed the legendary Silk Road from Beijing to Istanbul by bicycle.

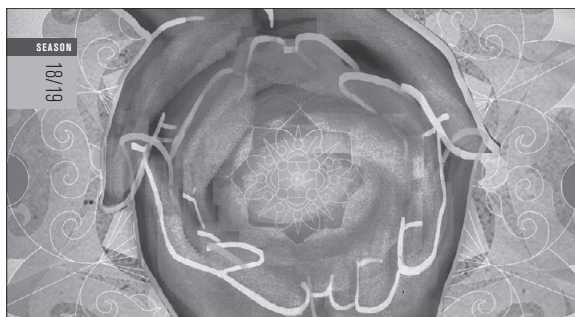
One year ago, the retired doctor from Rossland, together with 13 other riders, embarked on a five-month cycling tour that took them through 10 countries and covered 13,000 kilometres. Now Trenholme is on another bike trip, this time through southern B.C., visiting over 20 communities to share her fascinating story.

Through personal anecdotes, photos and maps, Trenholme will

highlight the varied geography and cultures of the ancient caravan route linking central China with the eastern Mediterranean, made famous by the explorer Marco Polo.

The group faced incessant 40-km/h winds for an entire month in Siberia and bone-jarringly rough terrain to reach the literal peak of the tour — the Tibetan Plateau at 15,000 feet, known as the "Roof of the World." On reflection, Trenholme describes the journey as "the ultimate challenge" of her life.

Admission to the presentation will be by donation to the Kenya Education Endowment Fund, a small B.C.-based charity, which makes secondary education possible for a number of African children who cannot otherwise afford the fees.



Ensemble Laude
Women's Choir
Dr. Elizabeth MacIsaac, Artistic Director

Gathering

Sunday June 9, 2019. 2:30 pm
All Saints by-the-Sea, 110 Park Dr, Ganges, Salt Spring Island

Tickets: \$20/ \$25 door/ \$15 student/ under 13 free
brownpapertickets.com, Salt Spring Books

www.ensemblelaude.org

Art by Sam Nagel

Susan Benson

NEW WORK



Salt Spring Island

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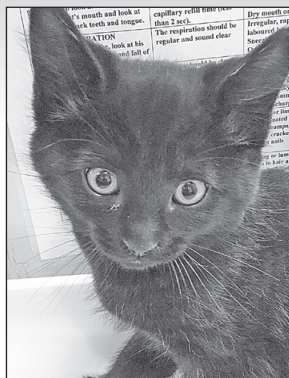
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what's on this week



Wed. June 5	Thu. June 6	Thu. June 6	Fri. June 7	Sat. June 8	Tues. June 11	Tues. June 11
<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>Tea a Tempo: Tom Bowler and Dave Roland. Local musicians perform at All Saints By-the-Sea. 2:10 p.m. (Note they are replacing the scheduled Mbira Spirit group, who are unable to make the engagement.)</p> <p>The New Customs. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</p> <p>SIMS Music Spring Concert. Students at SIMS present their spring concert. Students have been working hard throughout the spring to prepare a wide range of music and diverse genres. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Salt Spring Forum: Climate Crisis: Speaking Truth to Power. Julie Gelfand, Canadian Commissioner for the Environment, is the Salt Spring Forum's guest speaker. Gulf Islands Secondary School. 10 a.m.</p> <p>Bittancourt House Museum. Open Wednesdays through Fridays at the Farmers' Institute grounds, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., until June 28.</p> <p>Artists' Reception: Group of Six. Opening reception for photography show by Salt Spring Island's Group of 6, who share their perspective on the parts of the world that they see in black and white. The Group of 6 is comprised of: Larry Citra, Kahsia Hartwell, Simon Henson, Ross McLeod, Bruce McPhee & Judy McPhee. Salt Spring Public Library. 6 to 8 p.m.</p>	<p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>10,000 Tonight Fundraiser. Gulf Islands Secondary School's leadership program invites the community to drop by and donate an item of food, unused hygiene products or cash to benefit island charities. Event includes talent show performances and refreshments. GISS gym. 4 p.m. to 12 a.m.</p> <p>Chamigos. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</p>  <p>Argonautika. Gulf Islands Secondary School's 2nd Story Theatre presents end-of-year production by Acting 11/12 class. Based on the story of Jason and the Argonauts, this is a classic Greek sea voyage with a twist. Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Donation Drop-off Day for Giant Book & Jewellery Sales. Bring good-quality book and jewellery donations to the Country Grocer parking lot, north side (around the corner from the liquor store) for Salt Spring Literacy's annual book and jewellery sale. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Info: 250-537-9717 or info@saltspringliteracy.org.</p> <p>Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday listing.</p>	<p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Open Mic at Moby's. Thursdays at Moby's Pub. 8:30 to 11:45 p.m.</p> <p>Fri, June 7</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>Billie Woods. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</p> <p>Argonautika. See Thursday's listing.</p> <p>Karaoke Friday. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Buck Dodgers String Band. Live band at Moby's. 9 p.m.</p>  <p>Dance in Jungles Deep. A night of deep bass and dance floor passion at Beaver Point Hall. Performances by Jala ZuRa, Groove Lion and Boomtown. 9 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Children's Art Classes. For 7 to 14-year-olds led by Luba Nikitina on Fridays in June. At 10 a.m., noon and 1:45 p.m. Register at www.makemoreartstudio.com.</p> 	<p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Bittancourt House Museum. See Wednesday listing.</p> <p>Artists' Reception – Ian Thomas and Liam Johnson. Opening reception for month-long exhibition featuring paintings by Ian Thomas and handmade cribbage boards by Liam Johnson. Kizmit Galeria. 6 to 8 p.m.</p> <p>Artcraft Opening Reception. Opening reception celebrates the opening of Artcraft for the 2019 season as well as its first Showcase exhibition of the year, The Group of Six-Forms in Nature. Mahon Hall. 6 to 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sat. June 8</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>The Barley Brothers. Live music at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.</p> <p>Ocie Elliott. Duo of Jon Middleton and Sierra Lundy live at the Mateada Nitro Mate Lounge. 7 to 11 p.m.</p> <p>La Familia. Live band at the Legion. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Dream Deep Music: Shine. End-of-year recital for young music students of Oona McOuat's Dream Deep Studio, members of GISPA and Tsunami Circus, plus a special guest from Rainwood Dance Studio. ArtSpring. 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wannabeatles. Live band at Moby's. 9 p.m.</p>	<p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Salt Spring Saturday Market. Famous market of arts and crafts vendors, food and farmers in Centennial Park every Saturday through October. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p> <p>SIMS Music Car Wash. Middle school families raise money for a 2020 trip to the National Jazz Music Fest Competition. Country Grocer parking lot. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.</p> <p>Radiant Essence Retreat. One-day retreats combines qigong and writing to open untapped reservoirs of well-being and creativity. With teachers Lorraine Gane and Purna-Ma. Cedar Lane Studio. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.</p> <p>Salt Spring Hospice Society BBQ. Fundraising BBQ at Country Grocer parking lot. 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.</p> <p>World Oceans Day. Ocean lovers Ann Donahue, Catherine Griffiths and Sarah Grindler invite children ages 6 to 12 to join them for an afternoon of ocean-themed books, activities, crafts, snacks and dancing, Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 4 p.m.</p> <p>Sun. June 9</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Artist's Reception: Susan Benson. Opening reception for show of Susan Benson landscape pastels of Salt Spring Island. Duthie Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m.</p> 	<p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>LGBTQ+ Coffee Meet-up. Weekly event sponsored by DAISSI. Every Tuesday from 1 to 2 p.m. at Barb's Bakery.</p> <p>Tech Cafe: Excel for Beginners. Part 1 of a two-part course presented at the Salt Spring Public Library. 1 to 4 p.m. Pre-registration required at the library information desk, or call 250-537-4666, or email at info@saltspringlibrary.com.</p> <p>Tuesday Farmers Market. Food-only market with all homegrown or handmade goods. Runs June through September at Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.</p>  <p>Discussion Group on Spiritual Interests. Facilitated discussion group sees participants explore a variety of topics related to spiritual interests and practices on the second Tuesday of each month at Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice (St. Mary's Church in Fulford). 7 to 8:30 pm. This week the topic is: Sages, Gurus, Saints.</p>	<p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Book Launch: Unpacked. Aly Coy presents Unpacked, a memoir of checked baggage, about Coy's five years spent travelling in Western Europe. Salt Spring Public Library. 7 p.m.</p> <p>Wed. June 12</p> <p>LIVE ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>Tea à Tempo: Kaizenjammers. Salt Spring's Kaizenjammers trio returns to the Tea à Tempo stage, featuring John Reid, Michael Aronoff and Warren Langley playing blues, folk, light jazz, old timey and a few original pieces. All Saints. 2:10 p.m.</p> <p>Witness Her Wake. An evening of music, photography and spoken word with Sasha Rose & Brigid Devoe at Mateada Nitro Lounge. 7 to 10 p.m.</p> <p>GISS Music Presents The Weight. Year-end music program show at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>ACTIVITIES</p> <p>Bittancourt House Museum. See last Wednesday's listing.</p> <p>Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce AGM + Mixer. Annual general meeting with board of directors elections, mix and mingle and more at Lions Hall. Doors at 5 p.m.; meeting starts promptly at 5:30 p.m.; mixer from 6:30 to 7 p.m.</p>

THE FRITZ CINEMA

- **All Is True** — Impressively cast and beautifully filmed, All Is True looks at Shakespeare's final days. With Kenneth Branagh, Ian McKellan and Judi Dench. Friday, June 7 to Tuesday, June 11 at 7 p.m., plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday.
 - **National Theatre's All About Eve** shows Thursday, June 13 only, at 3 and 7 p.m.
- For more movie info go to www.thefritz.ca.

EXHIBITIONS

- **The Group of Six** shares their Black and White Photography Exhibit at the library program room to June 29 as part of Salt Spring Photofest, with an opening reception today (Wednesday, June 5) from 6 to 8 p.m. The Group of 6 is comprised of Larry Citra, Kahsia Hartwell, Simon Henson, Ross McLeod, Bruce McPhee and Judy McPhee.
- **Kizmit Galeria** shows paintings by Ian Thomas and handmade cribbage boards by Liam Johnson through June, with an

EXHIBITIONS

- reception Friday, June 7 from 6 to 8 p.m.
- **Susan Benson** brings her theatrical experience to bear on luminous new pastels of Salt Spring, opening at Duthie Gallery with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sunday, June 9 and continuing to June 26. Gallery hours are Friday to Monday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - **GISS Media Arts students** show site-specific photos in Ganges windows to June 7. ArtWalk maps available at participating locations.
 - **Evelyn Russell** presents handmade prints honouring the Salish Sea in Far Shore, showing at Salt Spring Gallery to June 12.
 - **Jeff Lederman** shows large-scale abstract expressionist paintings with accompanying poetry written for the works by Chicago poet and author Margaret Sullivan. At the ArtSpring Gallery, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily to June 12.

EXHIBITIONS

- **Erin Cleal** has the ArtSpring lobby exhibit for June, showing Pushing Paint, a body of work that focuses on the repetition of texture, patterns and colour.

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE CALENDAR EMAIL:
news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

GISS Music Presents The Weight

Wed.-Thurs., June 12-13

ArtSpring

7:30 p.m.

THRIFTY FOODS 

Ganges, Mouat's Centre • 7:30am to 9pm • Customer Service 250-537-1522

Remember WHEN

Five years ago

Salt Spring RCMP charged three island youth in connection with a series of break-ins that occurred in the spring of 2014. The 15-year-old males were caught breaking into a Rainbow Road property just after 1 p.m. They allegedly used a window to access the residence, where they grabbed a Playstation 3 and an iPad. Sgt. George Jenkins said the youths faced several counts of theft and break-and-enter in connection to similar incidents earlier in the year.

Ten years ago

RCMP were kept busy over the weekend dealing with multiple instances of impaired and erratic driving, vehicle theft, careless

use of a firearm and other incidents. Three drivers were facing charges of impaired driving, and RCMP also seized a small quantity of drugs from a separate vehicle. RCMP further responded to a call of shots being fired from a boat in Fulford Harbour. To end the weekend, crews were called to the scene of a roll-over accident on Vesuvius Bay Road.

Twenty years ago

Saturna Islanders spent a week without telephone service, and they discovered that it was "not so bad." The cause for the outage was believed to be the cable on the sea floor being caught by an anchor of a large ship. Driftwood correspondent Gail Trafford said that it took some time for people to realize what was going on for everyone. "Everybody just thought it was their own phone until gradually enough people talked so that they realized it was way more extensive than they thought," she said. Over the week, face-to-face meetings became more commonplace, and BC Tel placed complimentary cell phones at both

of the island stores, the lighthouse and the ferry dock. Trafford said life without land phones was not so bad. "If Y2K is no worse than this, who would complain?"

Thirty years ago

Islands Trust trustees said that groundwater resources on the Trust islands should be protected by provincial legislation. After meeting in council on Gabriola Island, trustees approved a resolution calling on the province to prepare legislation to protect the groundwater supplies. The Trust outlined the reason for the call, saying the "need to know the finite capacity of the Trust islands in relationship to their ability to absorb the impact of use in terms of water and soil capacity to absorb sewage" means the Trust's ability to achieve its mandate must be extended in that direction.

Forty years ago

A proposal to build a community centre seemed getting out of hand, as the project was potentially going to be 55,000 square feet, but it was revealed that a brief on

the project was misinterpreted as a building proposal. Instead, the document was simply a list of all of the possible amenities that the community would want. "It is stressed in the brief," said Salt Spring Community Society chairman Reid Collins, "that the 55,000 square feet mentioned is for the ultimate centre and it is not envisaged that the total project be built as one." The brief included a curling rink, swimming pool and a potential teaching facility.

Fifty years ago

An article published in the previous week's Driftwood had people up in arms for suggesting that drivers were unable to drive with an opened bottle of liquor in the car. The report suggested that a driver "must finish his bottle before going home." At the time, there was no law in British Columbia prohibiting drivers from having opened bottles of liquor in automobiles. Drivers were prohibited from consuming liquor in a public place, but the bottle that had been partially consumed may have been taken home in the car.

What is this? Where is it?

Can you identify this spot on Salt Spring? Send your answer to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or send a note to us on Facebook. The first person to submit the right answer gets their name published in this space.



LAST WEEK: Roger Brunt was the first to recognize the spire at All Saints by-the-Sea Anglican Church.

SALT
SPRING

Star

of the WEEK

Robin Jenkinson



As a biologist, gardener, cycling advocate and parent, Robin Jenkinson works hard to make the future a bit greener and the community stronger.

Jenkinson is a member of a number of parent groups at local schools. She is one of the facilitators of the school garden project at Salt Spring Elementary School, helping teach kids the importance of gardening. As an avid cyclist, she took on the role as community facilitator for Bike to Work Week to help promote active transportation on the island. She also works as a biologist on sustainability projects with the Salt Spring Island Conservancy and the Salmon Enhancement group.

show us
what you
see on
June 21!



A Day in the Life

We want photographers to send us their photos for our 2019 Day in the Life of Salt Spring Island publication. Just register in advance by sending an email to editor Gail Sjuberg

news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

and you will receive details about how to submit.

Photos must be taken
between 5 a.m. on Friday, June 21st and
5 a.m. on Saturday, June 22nd.

GULF ISLANDS
Driftwood

DRIFTWOOD Classifieds 250-537-9933

PLACE AN AD:

In person at 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Ganges
 By telephone 250-537-9933 or fax 250-537-2613
 By email to driftwood@driftwoodgimedia.com
 By post to Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3

PAYMENT:

By cash, debit, Mastercard or Visa. Classifieds are prepaid.

DEADLINES:

Class. display deadline: **Wednesday 4pm**
 Word ad deadline: **Wednesday 4pm**
 Too Late To Classify: **Monday 1pm**

WHAT IT COSTS: 3 LINE CLASSIFIEDS:

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EMPLOYMENT/ LEGAL ADS:

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Coming Events



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday, June 21, 1:30 pm
 265 Blackburn Road

Next Canadian Firearms Safety Course is on Saturday, June 15, 2019



The course emphasizes safe storage, display, transportation and handling of non-restricted firearms in accordance with the Canadian Firearms Act and is taught by a Canadian Firearms Safety Course Instructor.

For more information call: 250-537-1243 or email: kc12@telus.net

In Memorium



One-to-one Support Respite Care Caring Volunteers

250-537-2770
saltspringhospice.org




Coming Events

ARCHERY CLASSES

are being offered at the Salt Spring Rod & Gun Club on the following dates:
Mondays June 10th, 17th, & 24th

All equipment is supplied although you may bring your own bows.

JUNIOR SESSIONS (12 and under) 6pm - 7pm
ADULT SESSIONS (13 and over) 7pm - 8pm
 Total cost is \$80 for the 3 lessons

All lessons are taught by Archery Canada Instructor Ken Cameron
 Contact info: 250 537-1243 or kc12@telus.net

Legal Notices

CRIMINAL RECORD?
 Why suffer Employment/Licensing loss? Travel/Business opportunities? Be embarrassed? Think: Criminal Pardon. US Entry Waiver. Record Purge. File Destruction. Free Consultation 1-800-347-2540. accesslegalmjf.com

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Vihar Construction Ltd. a fully bondable multi-dimensional construction company based in Smithers, BC is accepting applications for class 1 drivers experienced in logging truck, gravel trucks and/or bellydumps. These positions are starting immediately.

Competitive wages, 40+ hrs per week and benefits after 3 months.

Please submit your resume admin@vihar.ca

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE: MONDAY 4PM

Coming Events

Education/Trade Schools

APPLY NOW: A \$2,500 Penny Wise scholarship is available for a woman entering the Journalism Certificate Program at Langara College in Vancouver. Application deadline June 30, 2019 Send applications to fbula@langara.ca. Details at <https://langara.ca/programs-and-courses/programs/journalism/scholarships.html>

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WHAT'S ON
 page 12

Help Wanted

Garage Sales



garage sale GUIDE

Garage Sales

144 SARAH WAY, Fri. June 7 & Sat. June 8 - 9am - 2pm. Fundraiser for SSI Pet Friendly Website. Dog stuff, art, antiques, Mexican décor & more.

Open Houses

OPEN HOUSE

330 Saltspring Way
 Saturday June 8
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getnoticed board

The free place to list your regular group activities of any kind.



Send your submissions to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or drop them off at the Driftwood office.
Published in the first Driftwood of each month!

WEDNESDAY

SALT SPRING GENEALOGY GROUP meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Mormon church. Info: Email cloudie48@gmail.com
STITCH DIMENSION QUILT GUILD meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7 p.m. at the Salt Spring Island Baptist Church, around the back.
SALT SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Harbour House Hotel.
SOUTH SALT SPRING SENIORS meet on the last Wednesday of each month at Fulford Hall at 2 p.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

SRHYTHMS MOVEMENT & DANCE CLASS led by Shauna Devlin at All Saints By-the-Sea (downstairs). 9 to 10 a.m.
BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC at SS Seniors Centre board room. 10 to 11 a.m. Confidential, accurate, easy and convenient.
BOOMERFIT at Fulford Hall. 9 to 10 a.m. Exercise classes for the boomer gen. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656.
BRIDGE CLUB at the SS Library program room from 12:30 to 4 p.m.
CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP for people caring for individuals with Alzheimers and others. Every Wednesday at Salt Spring Seniors (379 Lower Ganges Rd.) at 11 a.m. Info: Margaret Monro, 250-537-5004.
COMPUTER HELP — Free help with computer, tablet, smartphone issues at Salt Spring Literacy. By appointment at the literacy centre at 125B Rainbow Rd. or by calling 250-537-9717 or emailing coordinator@saltspringliteracy.org.
DUPLICATE BRIDGE group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 12:45 p.m. (for 1 p.m. start).
FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY offers free access to premium genealogy websites at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints at 221 Vesuvius Bay Rd. from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m.
GAMES AFTERNOON at Salt Spring Seniors. 1 to 3 p.m.
HATHA FLOW YOGA with Dorothy Price at Stowel Lake Farm. 9 to 10:30 a.m.
KIRTAN at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 7:30 p.m.
MEDITATION GROUP suitable for beginners meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10:10 to 11 a.m. Everyone welcome. Info: Deb Stevenson, 250-930-5333.
MEDITATION MEETINGS and teachings with the Salt Spring Vipassana Society. The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. Offered by donation with Insight Meditation teacher Heather Martin. 7 to 8:30 p.m.
MEN'S BRIDGE at Salt Spring Seniors at 7 p.m.
PICKLEBALL runs at Portlock Park from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Info: hafizbhimji@shaw.ca or 250-653-9579.
SSI PAINTERS GUILD meets at ArtSpring. 9:30 a.m. For activities see website ssipaintersguild.ca.
SSI ROTARY CLUB meets each Wednesday for a deliciously prepared lunch with community focused speakers and presentations at the Harbour House Hotel Crofton Room from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.
SWING DANCE at SS Elementary School gym. East-Coast, West-Coast, and Lindy Hop. Everyone welcome. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call Larry Nelson or Wendy Hartnett at 250-537-4118.
TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

YOGA - Mixed levels with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre. 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. and 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. PLUS Chair Yoga (Seniors) from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
YOGA with Dorothy Price at The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. 9 to 10:30 a.m. Info: info@santoshayoga-retreats.com, 250-537-7675
ZEN MEDITATION at 210 Cedar Lane at 7:15 p.m. Call 250-537-2062 for details. Newcomers always welcome.
ZUMBA TONING with Lee Sigmund at SSI Wellness Centre. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets on the first Thursday of the month at SS Wellness Centre. 1 to 2 p.m. Info: ljcharlton@shaw.ca
VISUALLY IMPAIRED SUPPORT GROUP meets on the first Thursday of the month at SS Seniors Centre, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Info: David at 250-537-8595 or Seniors Centre 250-537-4604.

EVERY THURSDAY

AIKIDO MARTIAL ARTS classes for kids and adults at the SSI Wellness Centre. Kids from 5 to 6 p.m., and adults from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Info: Alan, 250-538-5549; alanwardroper@gmail.com.
AL-ANON for friends and families of alcoholics holds an Easy Does It Lunch Bunch open meeting at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church rear annex. 12 to 1 p.m.
DANCE TEMPLE at Beaver Point Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.
LUNCH at Salt Spring Seniors Centre. 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.
KUNDALINI YOGA - all levels with Shannon Cowan at the Wellness Centre. 8 to 9:15 a.m.
NIA — Discover the delicious music, mindful movement & healing magic of Nia, a fabulous, fun blend of dance, martial arts and yoga. Antler Ridge Dance Studio, 211 Horel Rd., 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Info: arleensadler@shaw.ca.
OPEN MIC NIGHT at the Legion. 7 to 9 p.m.
PICKLEBALL runs at Portlock Park from 6 to 8 p.m.
SQUASH - Have Fun Learning Squash introductory sessions at the squash court at the Salt Spring Golf Club. Bring clean non-marking shoes. First time is free. 7:30 to 9 p.m.
STAY & PLAY DROP-IN at Family Place for ages 0 to 6 and caregivers. 12:30 to 3 p.m.
TAOIST TAI CHI for beginners at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
WOMEN'S YOGA with Jaya Levesque at SSI Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
VIJNANA YOGA with Liz Young at Stowel Lake Farm. 6 to 7:30 p.m.
YOGA ALL LEVELS with Dorothy Price at SS Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 6 p.m.
YOGA with Jim Dickinson at SS Seniors. 2 to 3 p.m.
YOGA IN SALT SPRING - Beginner/Level I with Jayne Lloyd-Jones 5 to 6:15 p.m. at Hedgerow House. Info: 250-538-1716

EVERY FRIDAY

COFFEE TIME for seniors is at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
DRUM CIRCLE meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 4 to 6 p.m.
ELEMENTARY BRIDGE COACHING. Beginning bridge lessons (but also with more advanced coaching available) at the Salt Spring Library Program Room. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
EVERYBODY STRETCH class with Catherine Bennett at SSI Wellness Centre. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
FAMILY MOVIE MATINEE at the SS Public Library Program Room. 2:30 p.m. Check SS library for exact schedule.
STORYTIME at the SS Public Library in the children's corner at 11 a.m. Drop-in program best for kids ages 3-6 and their caregivers.
FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS with Anna Haltrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 10 to 11 a.m.
GAMES NIGHT at the Salt Spring Library Program Room. Facilitator Bryan Dubien brings his vast collection of board games, or you can bring your own. 6 to 9 p.m.
MAH JONGG players gather at Salt Spring Seniors from 12:15 to 2 p.m.
MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 to 6 p.m.
MIXED LEVELS YOGA with John Howe at SSI Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.
WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENCE with Kaya Reiss at SSI Wellness Centre. 4 to 5:30 p.m.

EVERY SATURDAY

DAD 'N' ME PANCAKE BREAKFAST at Family Place. For dads and kids aged 0 to 6. 8:30 to 10 a.m.
EFT TAPPING (Emotional Freedom Techniques) intro and demos led by Judith Gane at Salt Spring Seniors Centre. Call Judith for details at 250-537-5322.
MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 to 6 p.m.
PICKLEBALL runs at Portlock Park from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Info: hafizbhimji@shaw.ca or 250-653-9579.
TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Open practice. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
YOGA IN SALT SPRING - All Levels with Jayne Lloyd-Jones 5 to 6:15 p.m. at Hedgerow House. Call 250-538-1716 or check YogaInSaltSpring.com for details.
ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS with Lee Sigmund. SSI Wellness Centre. 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

EVERY SUNDAY

KUNDALINI YOGA with Jaya Levesque at SS Wellness Centre. 10 to 11:15 a.m.
PICKLEBALL runs at Portlock Park from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
SUNDAY SATSANG at the SS Centre of Yoga. 3:30 p.m.
UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP meets at Salt Spring Seniors Centre at 10:30 a.m.

MONDAY

SSI FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT usually meets on the third Monday of each month at the Ganges Fire Hall at 7 p.m. See www.saltspringfire.com.
SSI TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION usually meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the SS Public Library Program Room. 4 to 6 p.m.

EVERY MONDAY

ACROYOGA CLASSES with Candice Seagull at the Baptist Church from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Info: facebook.com/cmsacroyoga
ACTIVE LEARNING group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 2 to 4 p.m.
CHESS GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
DARTS players meet for games at the Legion from 6 to 9 p.m.
DUPLICATE BRIDGE meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Salt Spring Seniors Services. Info: George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.
EVERYBODY STRETCH class with Catherine Bennett at SSI Wellness Centre. 1 to 2 p.m.
FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS with Alice Friedman at The Gatehouse, 9 to 10:30 a.m. Info: Alice Friedman, 250-653-4332, alicef@saltspring.com.
NIA — See Thursday description, except the location is All Saints Church, downstairs hall. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Info: arleensadler@shaw.ca.
PICKLEBALL runs at Portlock Park from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Info: hafizbhimji@shaw.ca or 250-653-9579.
SALT SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB holds casual coffee mornings for its members at Penny's on the Green at 10 a.m.
SALT SPRING SCOTTISH DANCERS meet at All Saints from 6 to 8 p.m.
TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. With beginners until 8 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
TECH TUTORING WITH CONRAD at the Salt Spring library. iPad, Tablet and eReader tutoring with Conrad Koke. Sign-up sheets are found in the Info Desk Programs binder. Sessions are available every Monday at 12 and 1 p.m.
THE CLINIC by OPT: Options for Sexual Health is open every Monday at the Core Inn 2nd floor. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. 250-537-8786.
TOASTMASTERS, a dedicated band of public speaking learners and enthusiasts, meets at the Salt Spring Public Library. 7 to 9 p.m. Guests always welcome.
VIJNANA YOGA LEVEL 2 with Cathy Valentine at Stowel Lake Farm. Sitting meditation, pranayama and asana. 5 to 6:30 p.m.
YIN YOGA with Satiya Channer at Stowel Lake Farm. 7 to 8:30 p.m.
YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre: Mixed Levels from both 8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.; Level 1 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 4:30 to 6 p.m.
YOGA FLOW with Jaya Genevieve Levesque at Salt Spring Wellness from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

AL-ANON - Do you have problems with someone's drinking? Meet at 135 Drake Road (Catholic church) rear portable from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. All welcome.
ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE. All are welcome to join the tango group, Por el Amor del Tango, at weekly practicas. All Saints By-the-Sea. 8 to 10 p.m. Info: ssi.tango@gmail.com
ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 1 to 3 p.m.
CHESS GROUP plays games at Salt Spring Seniors. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
CHOIR at Salt Spring Seniors. 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
EFT TAPPING (Emotional Freedom Techniques) intro and demos led by Judith Gane at Twisted Oak Studio. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call Judith for details at 250-537-5322.
FLOOR HOCKEY at Fulford Hall at 7:30 p.m.
LIFE DRAWING GROUP meets at Lions Hall from 1 to 3 p.m. All welcome.
LOST CHORDS seniors choir meets at SS Seniors at 10:30 a.m.
NIA — See Thursday description, except the location is All Saints Church upper hall from 5:45 to 7 p.m. Info: arleensadler@shaw.ca.
MEN'S GROUP - A council of highly supportive men. 7 to 9:30 p.m. Info: John, call/text 1-519-821-9703, reinless@mender.ca or meetup.com/reinless/
PICKLEBALL games are played at Portlock Park from 6 to 8 p.m. Instruction and equipment provided for beginners. Info: hafizbhimji@shaw.ca or 250-653-9579.
SALT SPRING IMPROV WORKSHOP: Free, drop-in improv theatre games for adults and teens 15 and up. Beginners welcome! SS Elementary multi-purpose room. 7 to 9 p.m. Info: sue.kernaghan@shaw.ca.
SQUASH - Have Fun Learning Squash introductory sessions at the squash court at the Salt Spring Golf Club. Bring clean non-marking shoes. First time is free. 10:30 a.m. to noon.
SS SEARCH & RESCUE - Learn ground survival, search and rescue techniques at the SAR Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.
STAY & PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6 at Family Place. 12 to 3 p.m.
TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.
UBUNTU sacred chants with Barb Slater. SSI Wellness Centre. 1 to 2:30 p.m.
YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE — Slow Flow class at Salt Spring Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m.
YOGA IN SALT SPRING - Level I/II with Jayne Lloyd-Jones 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Hedgerow House. Info: 250-538-1716
YOGA with Gay Young at Stowel Lake Farm. 5:15 to 6:45 p.m.

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SPORTS + RECREATION

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, **Streets of Salt Spring Island**

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com



WHALE WATCHING

New laws to protect whales from harassment

Federal regulations in effect June 1

BY YVONNE ANGUS
SALT SPRING ADVENTURE CO.

New whale watching rules under the federal Marine Mammal Regulations have started as of June 1. These laws are long overdue, and are the first step in helping our southern resident killer whales survive and thrive in our region.

We want to educate the locals and the tourists about these new laws to ensure they are being followed, and to inform everyone about the reasoning behind these important laws.

Our SRKW are the salmon-eating orcas of our region. They have been in decline for many years now, as their only food source is salmon, which have been reducing in numbers for decades on our coast due to fishing pressure, as well as the degradation of the rivers and estuaries where they breed.

In contrast we have more healthy transient orcas than ever in our region, which eat mammals like seals, sea lions and porpoises. These orcas have been moving into our region, replacing our SRKW, as they have moved onto other coastal areas to search for salmon.

We also have a large amount of humpback whales that have moved back into our region over the last decade, bringing new calves yearly to feed. Scientists surmise these whales are moving from other areas that are being affected by climate change, moving here where the food is.

Federal laws in the Salish Sea are now focussing on protecting all our orcas. Pacific Whale Watching Association members have pledged to not view SRKW at all, and we are allowed to view transient orcas at 200 metres. All other boats now have to stay 400 metres away from all orcas, as most people are unable to differentiate between transient orcas



An orca emerges for a "spyhop" against a backdrop of Washington state's Olympic mountain range.

and SRKW. There are also no-go zones in the region that were created to protect critical habitat for the SRKW.

To learn more about the new laws, please visit <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/mammals-mammiferes/watching-observation/index-eng.html>

Enforcement bodies in the Salish Sea that make sure these laws are upheld now have more funding than ever. They include: DFO, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Sound Watch, Strait Watch, RCMP, San Juan Sheriff, Canadian Coast Guard, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. There are even planes which cover the coast, which have high powered cameras and video for enforcement.

For more information, please come talk to us at Salt Spring Adventure Co. We have brochures about the new laws and are always happy to chat about them and local environmental issues.

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PHOTO COURTESY ANDREA SOWDEN

ROYAL RUNNERS: The Spring Training running group lead by Tanja Akerman are seen at Royal Roads University on May 26, where they participated in the MEC race series for 5K, 10K and half-marathon runners. From left are Akerman, Erin Lee, Kiran Dhingra, Andrea Sowden, Katie Watters, Sarah Shugar and Ken Jackson.

SPORT FISHING

Salt Springers win Galiano derby

Catch and release program deemed a success

changes by Fisheries and Oceans Canada for the Gulf Islands region.

Salt Spring residents came out on top at this year's Galiano Salmon Classic fishing derby, which was held on the May 25-26 weekend as a fundraiser for the Pacific Salmon Foundation.

"This did not deter a large number of anglers from participating in this annual event," Hart said. "The Pacific Salmon Foundation did an incredible job of organizing once again. And Montague Harbour Marina was an amazing host."

A well-snapped picture of overall length was required for each fish entered. Business partners Sean Hart and Dane Orser pulled in the top prize with their 89-cm chinook.

"The presence of salmon in the southern Gulf Islands is the best we've seen in years, and the derby was a huge success — proving the fishery is alive and well, and keeping your catch isn't necessary for everyone to have a great time on the water," Hart added.

The derby was set on the catch-and-release principle, due to recent regulatory